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Fire Information: 844-668-3473 Madera Media Line: 559-492-7755 Fresno Media Line: 209-628-3097

Incident Email: Creekfire2020@gmail.com

**Incident Website:** www.fire.ca.gov

https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7147/



@FresnoCoFire

@CALFIREMMU

@CAL\_FIRE



Date: 09/14/2020 Time: 9:00

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Incident Start Date: 09/04/2020 Incident Start Time: 6:33 p.m.

Incident Type: Wildland Fire Cause: Under Investigation

Incident Location: Both sides of the San Joaquin River near Mammoth Pool, Shaver Lake, Big Creek and

Huntington Lake.

Forest/CAL FIRE Units: Sierra National Forest, CAL FIRE Units Fresno-Kings and Madera-Mariposa-Merced

Unified Command Agencies: Great Basin Team 1, CAL FIRE 1, Fresno County Sheriff, Madera County Sheriff

Size: 212,744 Containment: 10%

Firefighter Injuries/Fatalities: 0 | Expected Full Containment: 10/15/2020

Structures Threatened: 14,074 | Structures Destroyed: 365\* | Structures Damaged: 32\*

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

## Current Situation:

**Fresno County:** Down canyon winds have increased fire activity in Jose Basin and pushed the fire across the line toward structures. This morning, firefighters are engaged in structure protection in the area. Later this morning, as winds shift to an up-canyon flow fire crews will work to re-establish a perimeter control line and mop up hot spots.

Smoke over the fire has shaded the vegetation and decreased fire behavior over the last several days. Today, that smoke could clear at the higher elevations and lead to more intense fire activity which could include runs and spotting. With this in mind, fire crews have been scouting beyond the fire out to the east to locate structures and other values at risk. A plan will be developed for the protection of these resources in the event that fire does move to the east.

On the eastern perimeter dozers, engines and crews will be working to construct new line and strengthen existing fireline. In the Tamarack area crews are tying into roads and natural barriers between Rock Creek and Bald Mountain and working to strengthen lines around several spot fires in Tamarack Creek. Line is also being established around China Peak.

The northeast portion of the fire, where the smoke shading will have less of an impact, is expected to be the most active portion of the fire today. However, if smoke clears at the lower elevations there is a potential that fire in Blue Canyon could also make a run. With that in mind firefighters are working the perimeter and preparing structures around Shaver Lake.

One major concern is the potential for extreme fire behavior should the air become clear above the fire area. Clearing air will be an indication for firefighters on the ground that conditions are about to change. When the inversion over a fire begins to break up and the air starts to mix, it is very much like opening the flue of a fireplace. The smoke will begin to rise and pull fresh air into the fire, increasing activity. Firefighters are preparing for this possibility and will adjust tactics as necessary.

Madera County: The Madera County Sheriff lifted evacuation advisories for Zones M58 -M87, the general Highway 41 corridor between Road 200 and Bass Lake Road (also known as Road 222). Please visit the Sheriff's website (QR code and complete web address below in yellow highlight) for current evacuation status. Firefighters are working to clear Road 81 and Mammoth Pool Road so utility companies can restore service before residents to return. While dense smoke persists throughout valley bottoms this morning, winds from the south and southwest are expected to increase later this afternoon, potentially bringing a little fresh air to the area. Winds are expected to push the fire to the north/northeast. On the north side of the fire, crews are focused on point protection, defending identified areas such as structures. Protection measures are in place at Devil's Post Pile National Monument and Red Meadows. Fire suppression work continues on the west side; miles of line extend from Redinger Lake north to Cascadel Woods and Central Camp, with dozer line circling communities and many dispersed structures. Crews continue to back-burn between the containment lines and the active fire front, working to declare additional sections of the perimeter contained. The Sheriff continues to enforce evacuation notices and maintain road closures to protect the public. Damage assessments are in progress; the county will notify property owners directly as information becomes available. With better visibility, air operations have missions slated for today. There have been conflicts between firefighting operations and drones. If you fly, we can't! Please comply with the temporary flight restriction. Don't be the reason a firefighting air mission has to divert! To view the evacuation map for Fresno and Madera Evacuation counties please visit: Orders: https://nifc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/in dex.html?id=28ce52cb86bf49dea0adef5a78b3c1b5 The Sierra National Forest will host an Incident Briefing tonight at 7pm via Facebook Live: Incident https://www.facebook.com/SierraNF/ **Briefing:** \* Damage inspection teams are evaluating structures; assessments are approximately 30% Damage complete. Madera County Sheriff's Office is contacting property owners directly. A website Inspection: is available for Fresno County properties that have been assessed to date: https://calfireforestry.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1933470ef8ea4c7e9cede56a df54efe1&extent=-13377356.4387%2C4419677.6073%2C-13142541.8878%2C4523937.7139%2C102100. Please register for evacuation alerts at: Closures Fresno County: Sheriff Office, sign up with Everbridge. https://t.co/Otack9NyKc?amp=1 and Alerts Madera County: Emergency Warning Systems: mcalert.org Mariposa County: Sheriff Office, sign up with Everbridge: msoalert.com For missing persons contact: Fresno County Sheriff 559-600-3111 Madera County Sheriff 559-658-2555 Forest Closures issued by the USDA Forest Service: US Forest Service temporarily closes Southern California Forests, including the Sierra National Forest. Regional order number 20-07 Emergency Forest Closure. **Temporary Flight Restriction:** Perimeter runs from South Merced River Fork on the south end of Yosemite National Park, south to Millerton Lake roughly following Route 41, east to King's Canyon National Park, and north to Inyo National Forest. **Evacuation Warnings:** Fresno County: Community of Prather. South of Little Sandy / Lodge Rd. North East of Tollhouse Rd. North of Millerton Rd. / Nicholas Rd. East Auberry Rd. Madera County: O'Neals, Walker Grade, and Fish Camp. For a complete list of evacuation warnings, see the Sheriff's website (QR code and complete web address in yellow highlight).

Road Closures:	Fresno County: Tollhouse Road at Pittman Hill Road, Maxon Road at Trimmer Springs Road, Auberry Road at Jose Basin Road, Watts Valley Road at Maxon Road, SR-168 at Lodge Road Madera County: Road 632 at Buckskin Road, Road 274 at Road 222, Road 432 at Road 222, Road 222 at Bass Lake Dam, Road 222 at Road 221, Road 222 at Road 226, Road 225 at Road 274 (Roundabout), Road 222 at Road 200. The following are open to residents only: Road 200 at Road 221, Road 426 at Road 223, Road 222 at Road 432.  Closure updates are listed at: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MaderaSheriff/">https://www.facebook.com/MaderaSheriff/</a> .
Temporary Evacuation Points:	Fresno County Clovis North High School -2770 East International Ave. Clovis, CA Madera County Mariposa County Fairgrounds – 5007 Fairgrounds Rd. Mariposa, CA
Animal Evacuation Centers:	Fresno County Small animals – Clovis North 2770 East International Ave. Large animals – The Fresno Fairgrounds, 1121 S Chance Ave, Fresno, CA 93702, is set up to receive evacuated animals but please contact the Central California Animal Disaster Team (888-402-2238) to make arrangements so animals can be received at the fairgrounds.  Madera County Small animals – Oakhurst Community Center 39800 Road 425B Oakhurst, CA Large animals – Producer's Livestock Facility at Madera Farm Bureau, 1022 South Pine Street, Madera, CA

ASSIGNED RESOURCES							
Engines: 266	Water Tenders: 66	Helicopters: 18	Hand Crews: 29	Dozers: 70			
Other: 599		Total Personnel: 2,503					
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Air Tankers: Numerous firefighting air tankers are flying fire suppression missions as conditions allow.

## **Cooperating Agencies:**

North Zone: Madera County, Madera County Public Health, Madera County Fire, OES, CHP, National Park Service, PG&E, CDCR, Sothern California Edison, American Red Cross, California National Guard, California Air National Guard. South Zone: Fresno County, Fresno County Public Health, Fresno County OES, OES, Shaver Lake Fire Department, Bald Mountain Fire Protection District, Auberry Fire Department, Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Big Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, CHP, National Park Service, CDCR, PG&E, Sothern California Edison, American Red Cross, California National Guard, California Air National Guard.

## To learn more about wildfire preparedness visit:

www.readyforwildfire.org